

New Career Planning Placement Office Opens ...

by Vatrice C. Mack

The Methodist College Administration recently approved a new budget line to create a full-time position for a placement director. Ms. Paula Miller opened the new Career Planning & Placement on January 15, 1993 in the Student Center. Many students thought the new office was long overdue. Miller, the new director, said there are two tasks she hopes the office will accomplish. These tasks are career planning and placement.

The first task, career planning, is intended to help those students who are wandering around aimlessly looking for the major that best fits them. Career planning is designed to help students become goal-oriented and to work toward a specific goal. Soon, the office will receive computer software which will allow students to come in and take interests tests. These tests will tell students what they are good at and what career utilizes these skills. For those students who are planning to attend graduate school, the office has something in store for them

also. With the software, a student will be able to obtain information on all graduate schools nationwide. All students have to do is type in their GRE scores and GPA and the software will be able to tell them which schools are likely to accept them. The information on the software is updated each year.

The second task, placement, will include the conducting of interview workshops, resume and cover letter workshops, and job fairs. The first interview workshop will be held on February 18, 1993 at 6:30 p.m. in one of the dormitories. Contact the Career Planning & Placement office for information regarding the exact dormitory. Commuter students are also invited to attend. The first job fair is scheduled for March 5th and 6th at 6:00 p.m. This job fair will be held at the Holiday Inn on I-95. Transportation to the job fair will be provided by Methodist College. Students must bring their resumes with them to the job

fair. There will be many national corporations present. The corporations will contact all those they wish to interview on March 6th. On March 8th, on-campus interviews will be held with the Highway Patrol. Ms. Miller has a binder of job vacancies in the placement office and is ready to serve all those who are interested. These vacancies include federal as well as civilian jobs. She also plans to educate students on career trends and salary projections for various jobs.

For those students who have an interest in finding summer jobs, Ms. Miller said she has hundreds of summer job openings waiting to be filled. Please contact her at 630-7279.

Upcoming issues of Small Talk will include more information about Career Fairs, and will tell which companies will be interviewing at the career fairs. Information about scheduled on-campus interviews will also be published. The computer in the Career Planning &



Paula Miller, Director of Career Planning and Placement.

Placement office has a laser printer and can be used by appointment. So, get out there and get your resumes together. Good Luck!

Methodist Holds Writers' Day Symposium

On Monday, February 1, Methodist College hosted the 1993 Writers' Day Symposium for area high school students. After the students' arrival at 10:30 a.m. and the welcome at 10:40, the students chose to attend five workshops, beginning at 11:10 a.m., each one dealing with a different specific area of writing, including Fiction, Poetry, Writing for Popular Magazines, Business Writing, and Screen Writing/ Visual Media. At 1:45 p.m., after the workshops had concluded, students gathered in the science auditorium to listen to readings by three prominent North Carolina writers, Tim McLaurin, Robin Greene, and Phil Gerard. At 3:30 p.m., awards were presented to outstanding student writers.

The three writers who read from their works have close ties to North Carolina. Tim McLaurin is a native of Fayetteville who now lives in Chapel Hill. His recollections of growing up in East Fayetteville, *Keeper of the Moon: A Southern Boyhood*, was the winner of the Mayflower Cup, a prestigious North Carolina non-fiction award. His first novel, *The Acorn Plan* was also based on his childhood in Fayetteville.

Fayetteville poet and part-time Methodist College English instructor Robin Greene was recently awarded a \$7,500 Individual Artists' Fellowship by the North Carolina Arts Council, an award that is partially funded by the National Endowment for the Arts. Ms. Greene was one of four North Carolina writers to receive such funding. She was also the winner of the 1991 poetry chapbook contest sponsored by the North Carolina Writer's Network. Ms. Greene's prizewinning poetry collection "Memories of Light" was published by Harperprints of Henderson, N. C. and has been praised for its author's exploration of complicated human issues.

Philip Gerard is a Wilmington writer who earned his Master of Fine Arts at the University of Arizona after a stint as a journalist and free-lance writer. His first novel, *Hatteras Light*, was followed by a book of nonfiction, *Brilliant Passage*. His second novel, *Cape Fear Rising*, is due out in February of 1994. Gerard is also the author of many short stories, reviews and essays, including nearly one hundred on-air essays for National Public Radio's *All Things Considered*.

The Writer's Day Symposium is an event held every year at Methodist College and is attended by high school students. It features local writers who read from their latest works. This year, over 180 high school students from nine local high schools attended.

Students Fined For Parking Violations

by Sharon Revels

Between January 25, 1993 and January 27, 1993, Methodist College Campus Security gave out approximately 75 tickets to students. Many students expressed displeasure. Some decided to pay the violation. Other students discussed their violation with Captain Saunders, department head of Campus Security.

Captain Saunders has explained that if a student refuses to pay the ticket, the fine is added to their bill in the business office. He also said that if students receive parking tickets for not having registration stickers on their cars, they should come to his office and discuss the ticket. "Security is here for the student's benefit," Saunders said. Captain Saunders wants every student to receive a parking sticker. He will definitely give students a chance to get a parking sticker, if they do not have one. As of January 27, 1993, he had already voided approximately 25 tickets. If a student can't afford a parking sticker, Campus Security

will issue a temporary sticker for seven days. If a student can't obtain a sticker after seven days, they will renew the sticker up to three times.

Some students complained that they didn't know they were parked illegally and that some parking spaces were not marked clearly. Captain Saunders said that Campus Security has repainted the parking areas at the Science Building, and they are making efforts to paint other worn signs in additional areas. His advice to the students is that they read the student handbook and become familiar with student parking rules and regulations.

Captain Saunders wants the students to know that the Security Officers will work with them, but that when they park illegally they will receive a ticket. Parking illegally makes it difficult for visitors, faculty, vendors, and the handicapped. He and his staff would

appreciate everyone's cooperation.